

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended). A blow-molded container characterized in that a container (1) comprises a cylindrical body (3), a neck (2) disposed in the upper portion of said body (3), and a bottom (4) disposed in the lower portion of said body (3), and is obtained by a direct blow molding process utilizing a split mold (101), which has a mold parting face (111) perpendicular to the mold-clamping direction and splits into front and rear mold halves, and in which a blow ratio in the range of 1 to 3 is set in the direction of mold parting lines (13) formed by said mold parting face (111) in a plan view showing a body portion right above said bottom (4),

wherein a bottom parting line (17) is formed on underside surface (5) of said bottom (4) by a linear pinch-off line (14), which is formed by pinch-off blades (106) disposed at pinch-off section (105) of said split mold (101), a pair of said mold parting lines (13) formed on the right and left sides of a peripheral zone, and a pair of connecting lines (16) that connects the right and left ends of said pinch-off line (14) to inner ends of said right and left mold parting lines (13),

wherein all or those portions of said connecting lines (16) that lie adjacent to said pinch-off line (14) are formed by end parting faces (112) located at right and left ends of the pinch-off section (105) of said split mold (101) so that a pair of roughly right-angled bent corners (15) is formed by all or those adjacent portions of said connecting lines (16) and said pinch-off line (14),

and wherein said split mold (101) permits flash lines to develop on the underside surface (5) of said bottom (4) but to extend only from the center of the underside surface (5) to said bent corners (15).

2. (Original) The blow-molded container according to Claim 1 wherein a blow ratio larger than 1.6 is set.

3. (Original) The blow-molded container according to Claim 1 wherein a blow ratio of 1.6 or less is set.

4. (Currently Amended) The blow-molded container according to Claim 1, ~~2, or 3,~~ wherein said bent corners ~~(15)~~ have a step height ~~(h)~~ or facial width at least nearly twice as much as the wall thickness of parison ~~(P)~~ to be used for blow molding.

5. (Currently Amended) The blow-molded container according to Claim 1, ~~2, 3, or 4,~~ wherein the pinch-off line ~~(14)~~ passing the center of the underside surface ~~(5)~~ of the bottom ~~(4)~~ is disposed so as to form a certain central angle ~~( $\alpha$ )~~ with the direction of the mold parting lines ~~(13)~~, wherein the connecting lines ~~(16)~~ are formed by connecting roughly linearly the right and left ends of said pinch-off line ~~(14)~~ with the inner ends of respective right and left mold parting lines ~~(13)~~, and wherein the bottom parting line ~~(17)~~ is formed almost axisymmetrically around the center of said underside surface ~~(5)~~.

6. (Original) The blow-molded container according to Claim 5 wherein said central angle,  $\alpha$ , is set at 45 degrees or less.

7. (Currently Amended) The blow-molded container according to Claim 1, ~~2, 3, or 4~~, wherein the pinch-off line ~~(14)~~ passing the center of the underside surface ~~(5)~~ of the bottom ~~(4)~~ has the same direction as that of the mold parting lines ~~(13)~~ and wherein bent corners ~~(15)~~ are formed in roughly symmetrical positions and are bent from the right and left ends of said pinch-off line ~~(14)~~.

8. (Currently Amended) The blow-molded container according to Claim 1, ~~2, 3, 4, 5, 6, or 7~~, which is used as a primary molded product ~~(9)~~ and is molded into a biaxially drawn, blow-molded container.

9. (Currently Amended) The blow-molded container according to Claim 1, ~~2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, or 8~~, wherein the container wall has a laminated structure.

10. (Currently Amended) The blow-molded container according to Claim 9 wherein the container wall of a laminated structure comprises at least an outer layer ~~(1a)~~ made of a synthetic resin and an inner layer ~~(1e)~~ made of another synthetic resin having low compatibility with the synthetic resin of which the outer layer ~~(1a)~~ is made.

11. (Currently Amended) A mold for use in blow molding characterized in that a split mold ~~(101)~~ has a mold parting face ~~(111)~~ perpendicular to the mold-clamping direction, splits into front and rear mold halves, and has a mold pinch-off section ~~(105)~~, which is used to pinch off parison ~~(P)~~ and is provided with pinch-off blades ~~(106)~~ on bottom surface ~~(104)~~ of bottom ~~(103)~~ of mold cavity ~~(102)~~, wherein a bottom parting line ~~(117)~~ is formed, in the cross-sectional plan view

of said split mold (101) in its closed state, by a linear pinch-off line (114), which is formed on the bottom surface (104) by the pinch-off blades (106); a pair of mold parting lines (113) formed by said mold parting face (111) on the right and left peripheries; and a pair of connecting lines (116) that connects the right and left ends of said pinch-off line (114) with the inner ends of said right and left mold parting lines (113), and wherein all or those portions of said connecting lines (116) that lie adjacent to said pinch-off line (114) are formed by end parting faces (112) located at right and left ends of the pinch-off line (114) of said split mold (101) so that a pair of roughly right-angled bent corners (115) is formed by all or those adjacent portions of said connecting lines (116).

12. (Currently Amended) The mold for use in blow molding, according to Claim 11, wherein said bent corners (115) have a step height ( $h$ ) or facial width at least nearly twice as much as the wall thickness of parison ( $P$ ) to be used for blow molding.

13. (Currently Amended) The mold for use in blow molding, according to Claim 11 or 12, wherein the pinch-off line (114) passing the center of the bottom surface (104) of the bottom (103) of the mold cavity (102) is disposed in the direction forming a certain central angle ( $\alpha$ ) with the direction of the mold parting lines (113) in the cross-sectional plan view of said split mold (101) in its closed state, wherein the connecting lines (116) are formed by connecting almost linearly the right and left ends of said pinch-off line (114) with the inner ends of respective right and left mold parting lines (113), and wherein the bottom parting line (117) is formed almost axisymmetrically around the center of said bottom surface (104).

14. (Currently Amended) The mold for use in blow molding, according to Claim 13, wherein said central angle ( $\alpha$ ) is set at 45 degrees or less.

15. (Currently Amended) The mold for use in blow molding, according to Claim 11-~~or~~  
~~12~~, wherein the pinch-off line (~~114~~) passing the center of the bottom surface (~~104~~) of the  
bottom (~~103~~) of the mold cavity (~~102~~), in the cross-sectional plan view of the split mold in its  
closed state, has the same direction as that of the mold parting lines (~~113~~) and wherein bent  
corners (~~115~~) are formed in roughly symmetrical positions and are bent from the right and left  
ends of said pinch-off line (~~114~~).